To whom it may concern:

I have recently become aware of the FDA's proposal to make it virtually impossible for the American people to obtain information about herbs, vitamins, and minerals that could have healing properties. Under this proposal these things would also be unavailable over the counter and would also be more expensive. Why would anyone want to make it harder to get things that are supposed to be beneficial to us? The government is supposed to look out for the well being of it's people, not infringe upon their rights. This is clearly a ploy to boost the wealth of the pharmaceutical companies, since the government has so much stock in them, and to degrade the herbal industry since it is evident that they pose a threat to the chemical medicine world.

Another disturbing thing is that the FDA is trying to redefine things such as menopause, aging, PMS, headaches, and pregnancy by calling them diseases so that one can only get a prescription to alleviate the experience of such things. Did I miss something? I was always under the impression that these were all natural occurrences that went along with being human. What's next, labeling exercise as hazardous to your health? If the FDA is going to label herbs that promote health, alleviate pain, and help prevent disease as drugs and not do the same to things such as caffeine and nicotine, which have been proven to be hazardous to one's health, something is deeply wrong.

I implore the FDA to think twice about twisting the Dietary and Supplemental Health and Education Act by imposing the new rules which would deny our access to important information about our health choices. This is a direct infringement upon our freedoms and constitutional rights. Please preserve section six of the DSHEA to allow for a robust flow of valuable information in the marketplace. It is imperative that the FDA withdraw it's proposal to redefine disease in a way that would limit the easy access of information about herbs, vitamins, and minerals that promote good health.

Sincerely,

SENelson

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